

ELECTRICITY IN SMALL TOWNS

How Windham Successfully Installed a Power Plant.

LESS THAN 300 INHABITANTS.

The Light Plant and a Feed Mill Run in Connection With It Made Total Earnings of More Than \$1,000 During the Past Year.

The village of Windham, N. Y., has set an example in progressiveness that many a larger town would do well to follow.

With a population of less than 300 inhabitants it has successfully installed a complete electric light system.

About twenty minutes to one-half hour is all that is necessary to put the plant in operation. The old fire in the producer is raked down, fresh fuel is added and the blower started, which creates the necessary draft. The blower is kept in operation until after the gas engine has started running. The blower is operated by a two horse power gasoline engine. The cost of operation of the gasoline engine is very low, about a gallon of gasoline being consumed per week.

When the producer is first started the gas is of poor quality and allowed to escape by means of a three way valve opening to the atmosphere. By means of a test valve situated near the engine and connected to the supply pipe the gas is tested at different intervals. When it is found to be of the right quality the valve opening into the atmosphere is closed, allowing gas to enter the scrubber and then into the engine cylinders. The cylinder jacket is kept cool by water coming from a tank placed near the top of the plant. Water is pumped up to this tank from a fifty-five foot well by a small pump, which is belt connected to the flywheel of the gas engine.

In connection with the power plant the owner has installed a feed grinding mill, which is operated at night when the producer is running. The feed mill is run by a gas engine, which draws its gas from the supply tank. Feed is ground at the rate of 10 cents per 100 pounds and nets a very good income. Very little extra fuel is required in the gas producer when the mill is run in connection with the lighting plant, three or four buckets of coal being all that is necessary during the entire evening.

During the summer months the grinding drops off. The grinding mill is situated in the room adjoining the producer plant and one man operates the entire system. The extra services of a fireman are not required as in a steam plant. The power end of the plant requires very little attention after being put into operation. The engine and electrical equipment are examined occasionally to see if everything is running smoothly, but otherwise very little time is devoted to inspection. The rest of the time is spent by the operator in the grinding room or in doing other work around the plant.

The following figures, furnished by the company covering operation for the year 1911, are of interest:

Earnings from light plant for the year.....	\$1,124.32
Earnings from feed mill.....	44.35
Making total gross earnings.....	\$1,168.67
Cost for coal for the year.....	238.17
Cost of oil and waste for year.....	50.53
Repairs and incidentals.....	32.67
Making a total expenditure, exclusive of labor of operation, of.....	\$320.52

The plant at Windham is an excellent illustration of what can be done in a small town where it is desired to have electricity for street lighting and commercial purposes.

WANT BREAD WRAPPED.

Women's Civic League of Portland, Ky., to Fight Grocers.

Unwrapped bread will not be purchased in the future by members of the Women's Civic league of Portland, Ky. A committee composed of Mrs. George R. Yancey, Mrs. Charles Gwin and Mrs. H. L. Stahl has been appointed to ask all grocers to wrap their bread before it leaves the bakeries so that it will be protected from dust, germs and flies.

The Portland women will call to the attention of other organizations the importance of enlisting in the campaign for clean bread. The action on unwrapped bread followed an address by Mrs. George W. Grant on pure food.

Collinsville Water System Completed. The new waterworks system for Collinsville, Tex., has been completed and is now ready for use. The system comprises a deep well, a gasoline engine and a reservoir that will hold 300 or 400 barrels of water.

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A FASHION HINT.

Freshen Up Last Season's Gown With a Tunic.



BRILLIANT GOWN IN CHIFFON AND VELVET.

If a silk frock of last season needs freshening up there is nothing that will do the trick so well as to drape it with a chiffon tunic. These tunics come in lovely embroidered and beaded designs already made in the shops, and the most inexperienced dressmaker can fit them to the frock they are to adorn.

The costume illustrated has a chiffon tunic weighted with a deep hem of velvet and also with heavy embroidery and gold cord. The tunic falls in slender lines over a drop skirt of satin. The waist line is high, in the prevailing empire style. The long tight sleeves of satin add to the dignity of this costume. But the brilliant color scheme—which of course does not show in the reproduction—makes one forget the severe lines, for the satin is rich dark red, and the red chiffon tunic above the red satin lining is made brilliant by the gold embroidery.

Story of a Stingy Husband.

In a lively article in the current number of Farm and Fireside on the relations between husbands and wives on the subject of home finances there are several interesting reports of actual cases. Following is a report of a stingy husband:

"A girl I knew in my youth was married after a short acquaintance to a scholarly professional man. He had been brought up under hard conditions in a strenuous school of poverty. She was the daughter of wealth and had never been denied a reasonable wish. Her husband is what is called a good provider. He bought amply for the table and was not averse to having plenty of fuel and sufficient house furnishings to keep his home comfortable and dignified. He simply declined to let Betty buy so much as 5 cents' worth of anything. He did not wish her to have accounts at shops, nor did she desire them. When she wanted to buy anything for herself or the children he accompanied her, superintended her purchases, examined every pair of stockings and every yard of muslin and frowned upon ruching and trimmings as needless, drawing out his well filled pocketbook and paying the bill with a flourish when the shopping had been done to his satisfaction. She never had any money in her possession except when her mother sent it to her as a gift, and when this was done she took excellent care to keep Reuben in ignorance. Once the good man, for in some ways he was good, was compelled to leave home for a few days. He carefully counted the amount that his wife would spend for the house during his absence. Then he lost his train and had to wait over another day. Coming home, he asked her for the cash and put it back in his own pocket for the next twenty-four hours."

Suffragette Activity.

The women of New York state are trying to bring the Empire State into the suffrage group to follow California. New York city is about torn asunder with suffrage clubs. There are nine local organizations. Mrs. Clarence Mackay's branch opened a circulating suffrage library recently. The Woman's Political union held a meeting in Carnegie hall to listen to Mrs. Pankhurst, and the collection they took up amounted to \$9,000, and with this they are branching out in various directions. A vote for women bill is the next affair, and then comes the suffrage parade, when they count on having 30,000 women in line, with banners and floats, to say nothing of a company of cavalry. Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont has opened a magnificent clubhouse, and her next venture is a daily paper. The woman's suffrage party is starting a magazine that will compete with the Ladies' Home Journal in advertising and furnish such reading as women have never had dished up to them.

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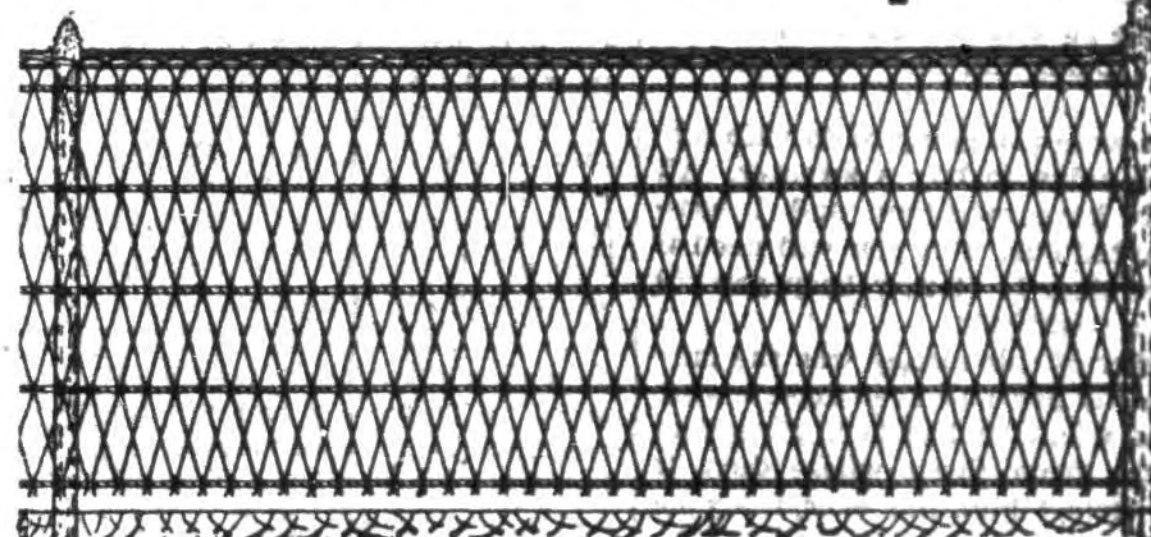
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